

*Geothlypis trichas roscoe*.—Male adult: above, including tail, dark olive-green tinged with a rich dark yellow, feathers in highly colored specimens being tipped with light brown; frontal shield of black reaching well up onto crown, covering entire face, with narrow stripe over eye and reaching far down on the neck; ashy stripe *exceedingly narrow* and pale. Underparts rich gamboge yellow, tinged with brown in winter specimens, and reaching well down to and including vent and under tail-coverts, but becoming lighter near median line; flanks of a rich chocolate brown varying in intensity with age. Female differing from *trichas* both in size and intensity of color. Length of wing (skin), 2.13; tail, .244; bill, .50; tarsus, .75 inch. Upper and lower mandible black; iris brown; tarsus and feet flesh color. Intermediate in habitat and characters between *trichas* and *occidentalis*, but combination of characters peculiar and constant over a very wide area.

*Habitat*: in summer Mississippi Valley, north to Wisconsin, Minnesota, etc.; in winter Gulf States including Florida.

The single 'chip' of this bird, uttered at intervals, while partaking of the general characters is louder and harsher, while the songs of those heard in March were unmistakably clearer and stronger than any yet ascribed to *trichas*.

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

Supplement to the A. O. U. Code of Nomenclature and Check-List of North American Birds.\*—The Supplement to the A. O. U. Check-List of North American Birds, mentioned in the last number of 'The Auk' (Vol. VI, p. 81) as in preparation, has now been completed and issued, forming an octavo pamphlet of 23 pages, uniform in style and typography with the 'Code and Check-List.' As explained in the Preface, it consists "of the tenable species and subspecies, genera and subgenera, added since the publication of the Check-List, together with any necessary eliminations and valid changes in nomenclature made since the Check-List was issued . . . . The Supplement here presented records the ruling of the Committee on about one hundred distinct questions, involving additions to the Check-List or changes in its nomenclature. Besides this, the Committee con-

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\*Supplement | to the | Code of Nomenclature and Check-List | of | North American Birds | adopted by the American Ornithologists' Union | Prepared by | a Committee of the Union | — | New York | American Ornithologists' Union | 1889.—8vo, pp. 23.

sidered some twenty or thirty additional cases of similar character, in which the proposed changes were found untenable, or in which the material examined was not sufficient to determine the question of their validity; and its decision thereon may be thus considered as in the main negatively recorded in the following pages. All questions of this nature known to the Committee at the time of its meeting [in November, 1888] were acted upon." The matter is classified under three heads: I, Additions; II, Eliminations; III, Changes of Nomenclature.

The additions number 23 species and 43 subspecies, one genus and three subgenera. The eliminations are two species and one subspecies. The changes in nomenclature are three affecting genera, two affecting subgenera, fifteen affecting species, and two affecting subspecies.

The Committee to whom the work was assigned by the Union consists of Messrs. Allen, Brewster, Coues, Merriam and Ridgway. Mr. Ridgway acted as the Committee's secretary, to whom also fell the greater part of the work of preparing the manuscript for printing.

The interval covered by the Supplement is scarcely three years. As the foregoing statistics show, they have been years of remarkable activity in North American ornithology, during which exploration has been pushed with unprecedented vigor, yielding results far beyond the most sanguine expectations.—J. A. A.

**The Abridged A. O. U. Check-List.\***—Simultaneously with the publication of the 'Supplement,' the Union issues an Abridged Check-List of North American Birds, containing not only the species and subspecies of the old Check-List, but also the additions and the changes of nomenclature made in the Supplement, the additions being interpolated in their proper places. The Abridged Check-List "contains only the scientific names, English names, concordance and current numbers." The list of Fossil Birds contained in the original Check-List, however, has been omitted, and a list of introduced or 'Naturalized Species' has been added. This edition of the Check-List is thus not only abridged, but revised to date. It is printed on only one side of the paper, thus adapting it for use in labelling, or for the reception of notes or additions. The preparation of the manuscript for this edition was made by Dr. Merriam, at the request of the Committee; he also supervised the printing, and compiled the list of 'Naturalized Species,' to whom this latter task was especially assigned by the Committee.

Collation of the abridged edition with the original Check-List and Supplement shows an almost faultless correspondence, the only discrepancies of any importance being in the numeration, where 420 *c* in the abridged edition should be 420 *b*, and 519 *c* should be 519 *b*. The 'Hypothetical List,' however, has been renumbered, there having been here one elimination and two additions.—J. A. A.

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\*Check-List | of | North American Birds | According to the Canons of Nomenclature | of the | American Ornithologists' Union | — | Abridged Edition | Revised | — | Published by the American Ornithologists' Union | 1889.—8vo, pp. 71.